

The President's Daily Brief

6 October 1971

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

6 October 1971

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

On Page 1 we discuss the current military situation along the border between West Pakistan and India.

The latest satellite photography shows no additional silos of the new types. (Page 3)

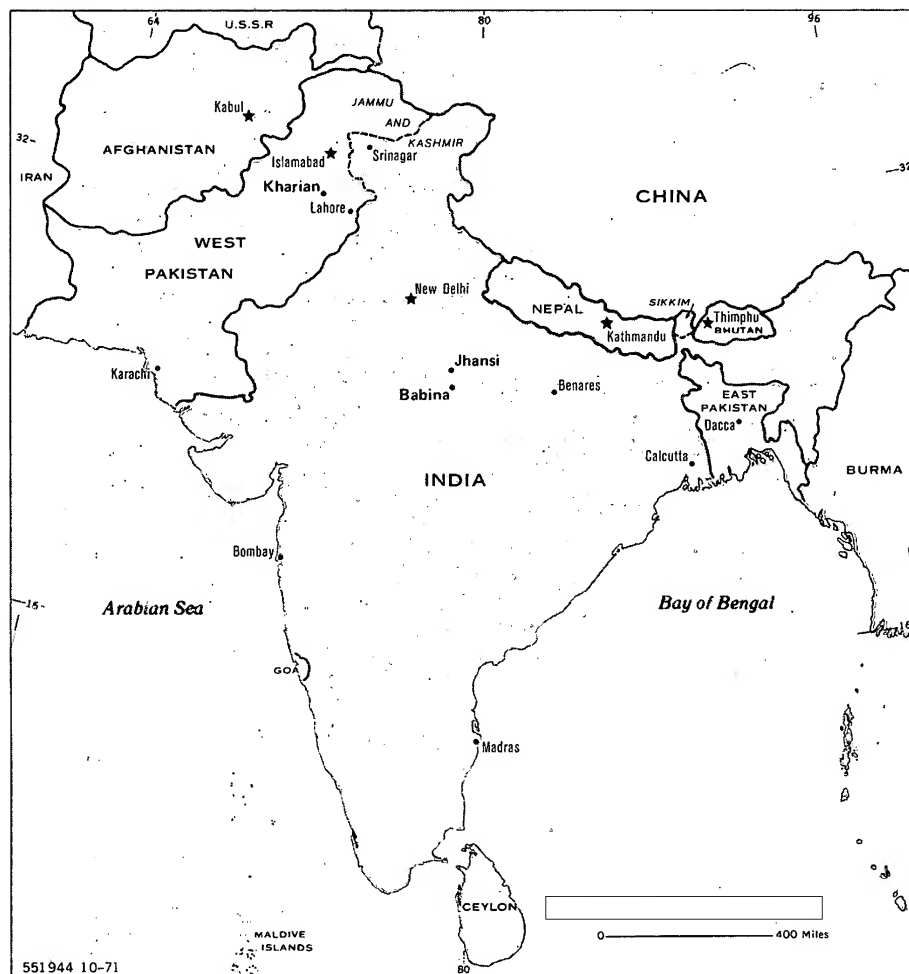
West Germany

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(Page 4)

The forced retirement of top Argentine naval officers is stirring fresh criticism of the Lanusse government in military circles. (Page 5)

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PAKISTAN-INDIA

Pakistani military preparations near the West Pakistan - India border continue.

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many West Pakistani civilians have begun leaving border areas, fearing the breakout of hostilities.

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Although Yahya apparently has been giving some thought to launching an early military strike against India, we are inclined to believe that he has not yet made a final decision. He and his fellow generals are well aware of India's military superiority. Moreover, we do not believe that the west wing's position in the East has become so desperate as to cause Yahya to call for an early deliberate attack on India.

An Indian Army official told the US and other military attachés on Monday that a Pakistani armored division and an infantry division at Kharian had moved out to "battle positions" to the southeast. Satellite photography did show the Kharian cantonment to be virtually deserted, but no large movements of equipment on the rail lines going south from Kharian were observed.

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yesterday that Pakistani military units were currently engaged in exercises; if true, this could account for the changes at the Kharian base.

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Satellite photography showed that at least the support elements of India's 1st Armored Division remain at its home cantonment at Jhansi 200 miles south of New Delhi, indicating that the division has not moved toward the West Pakistan border area as previously reported.

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The satellite photography of other military facilities in both countries reviewed so far reveals no unusual activity.

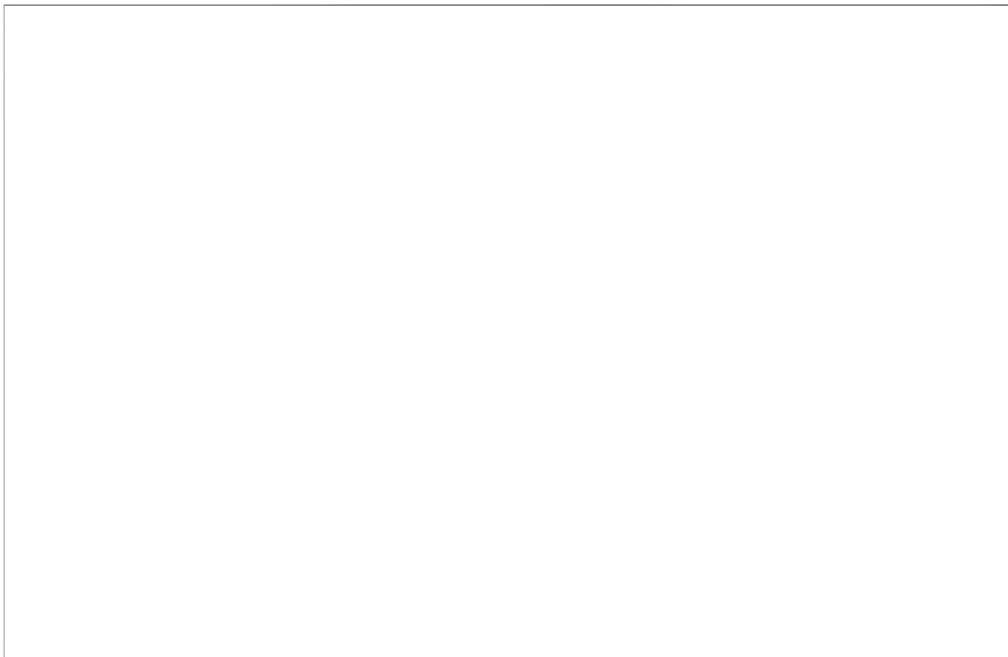
Both India and Pakistan apparently have reimposed restrictions on each other's diplomats after Indian police allegedly kept a busload of Pakistani diplomatic personnel from returning home. Pakistani newspapers are also stepping up their charges of aggressive Indian activities and intentions in the East.

In addition, several small skirmishes between Indian and Pakistani forces took place in the India - West Pakistan frontier region last week [REDACTED]

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It is not clear whether these incidents represent a deliberate action by either side. All clashes previously reported this year had been confined to the East Pakistani border.

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USSR

No additional silos of the new types were detected at deployed missile complexes covered by the most recent satellite photography. The count remains at 25 of the new type of silo at complexes where the SS-9 is deployed and 66 of the type at Derazhnya and Pervomaysk, where SS-11s (and a few MRBMs and IRBMs) are deployed.

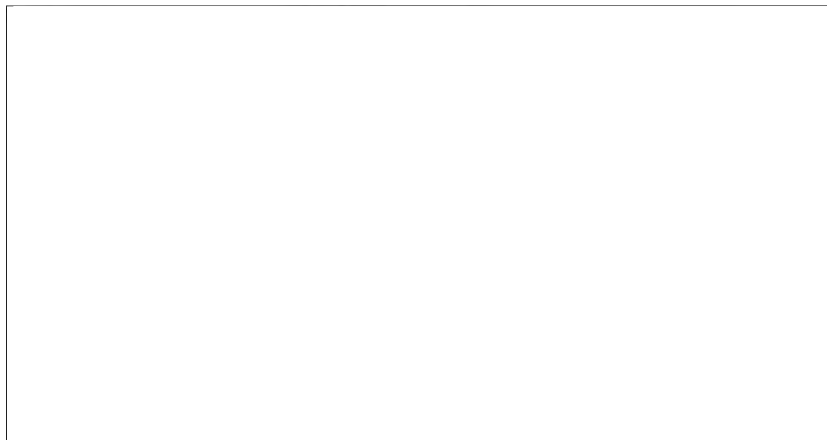
The latest photography was from the second part of a low-resolution satellite reconnaissance mission. In all, [] the mission covered portions of 20 of the 24 Soviet ICBM complexes, including all the SS-9 complexes where the new type of silo is being deployed. Pervomaysk and Derazhnya also were partially covered.

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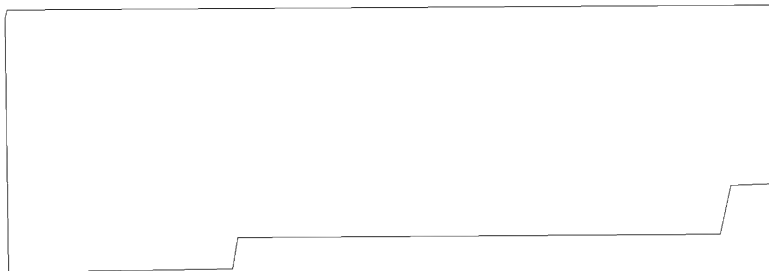
Analysis of the photography is continuing.

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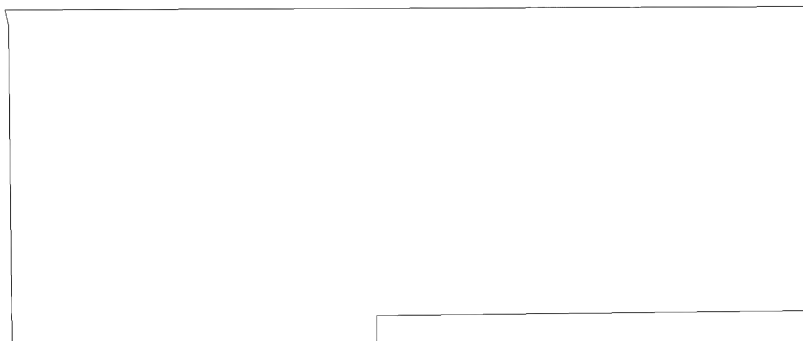
WEST GERMANY



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ARGENTINA

The Lanusse government has forced the retirement of the navy chief of staff and the chief of naval operations following their charges of venality against the navy commander in chief. The government's action has prompted several meetings of top military officers. Criticism of the Lanusse government is quite open in discussions among these officers. The situation has caused rumors of an impending coup attempt to be circulating again in Buenos Aires.

The growing concern in the military over Lanusse's handling of the economy and his political rapprochement with the Peronists could cost him the all-important support of his senior army commanders, some of whom are among the senior officers expressing concern over the navy developments.

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